

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

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CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0254

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-80

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF SACLANT AND CINCHAN FORCE PROPOSALS TO
DPC JANUARY 17

REF: STATE 9700

SUMMARY: SACLANT AND CINCHAN PRESENTED THEIR FORCE PROPOSALS
FOR 1975-1980 TO DPC ON JAN 17. RUMSFELD (US) MADE
STRONG PITCH FOR NATO TO INSURE THAT ALL NO COST/LOW COST
FORCE IMPROVEMENTS ARE IMPLEMENTED. RUMSFELD DREW FROM
REFTEL IN SUGGESTING CAREFUL MC REVIEW OF FORCE PROPOSALS.
SYG, ASYG FOR DEFENSE PLANNING AND POLICY, AND BELGIAN PERMREP
ALSO DID LIKEWISE. RUMSFELD FURTHER SUGGESTED STRONGER INTEREST
AND MORE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY DPC IN FORCE GOALS PROCESS.
END SUMMARY

1. DPC RECEIVED PRESENTATIONS OF SACLANT'S AND CHINCHAN'S
FORCE PROPOSALS 1975-1980. PRESENTATIONS EMPHASIZED THAT
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PROPOSALS ARE BASED ON MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, PARTICULARLY
PORTION URGIN COUNTRIES, IF WITHIN THEIR
ECONOMIC CAPABILITY, TO ALLOCATE A STABLE AND POSSIBLY LARGER
PROPORTION OF THEIR GROWING NATIONAL WEALTH TO DEFENSE.

SYG LUNS CHARACTERIZED BRIEFING AS INTERESTING AND NOTED GLOOMY DESCRIPTION OF MARITIME BALANCE, ESPECIALLY IN SACLANT'S AREA. MC REP (ADM MINTER) UNDERLINED REMARKABLE GROWTH IN SOVIET SEAPOWER OVER PAST 20 YEARS, ADDED THAT APPROXIMATELY 90 PCT OF RESUPPLY IN TIME OF CRISIS WOULD BE MADE BY SEA, AND SUGGESTED RESUPPLY COULD NOT BE ASSURED UNTIL SOVIET ASW THREAT CONTROLLED.

2. RUMSFELD (US) SAID PAST HISTORY HAS SHOWN MANY FORCE PROPOSALS/FORCE GOALS ARE NOT MET FOR BUDGETARY REASONS. HE PRESSED FOR NATO TO DO A BETTER JOB OF INSURING THAT NO COST/LOW COST FORCE IMPROVEMENTS ARE IMPLEMENTED. HE STRESSED COLLECTIVE DEFENSE PLANNING AND SAID NATO MUST FIND A WAY TO BRING WEIGHT OF ALLIANCE TO BEAR ON SOLVING COMMON DEFENSE PROBLEMS. SYG LUNS CITED IMPORTANCE OF CHOOSING ONE COMMON AIRCRAFT TO REPLACE F-104. LATER IN DISCUSSION, MC REP EMPHASIZED THAT NATO IS FACING A SIMILAR OPPORTUNITY IN REPLACING MINE COUNTERMEASURE FORCES FOR DEFENSE AF ACCHAN (SEVERAL COUNTRIES REQUIRE NEW SHIPS DURING SAME TIME FRAME). CINCHAN REP CITED NEED FOR COMMON SHALLOW WATER TORPEDO.

3. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) SAID THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE A RECONCILIATION BETWEEN MILITARY REQUIREMENTS AND COUNTRY BUDGET CAPABILITIES. ASYG FOR DEFENSE PLANNING AND POLICY (HUMPHREYS) SAID DRC WOULD ATTEMPT TO RECONCILE THE DIFFERENCES, BUT THAT IMMEDIATE NEXT STEP WAS WP TO THE MC. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE MC SHOULD ADJUST PRIORITIES AMONG THE MNC'S. HE CITED THAT THE PROPOSALS CALL FOR 363 NEW SHIPS BY 1975, IMPLYING THAT THIS WAS NOT FEASIBLE.

4. RUMSFELD DREW FROM REFTTEL IN ASKING MC TO PROVIDE DRC AND DPC WITH RATIONALE FOR FORCE PROPOSALS WHICH SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEED INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL ABILITY TO SUPPORT. DE STAERCKE SUPPORTED US BY STRESSING MC MUST MAKE A THOROUGH REVIEW OF MNC FORCE PROPOSALS FROM AN OVERALL MILITARY POINT OF VIEW. CONFIDENTIAL

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RUMSFELD SUGGESTED STRONGER INTEREST AND MORE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY THE DPC IN THE FORCE GOALS PROCESS, POSSIBLY INCLUDING MORE THAN ONE DPC MEETING ON FORCE GOALS.

5. SACLANT REP, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM RUMSFELD, SAID SACLANT ASSESSMENT TAKES ACCOUNT OF MOST NAVAL FORCES THAT MIGHT REASONABLY BE AVAILABLE TO NATO. HE INDICATED FRENCH FORCES HAD NOT BEEN COUNTED; US FORCES IN PACIFIC WERE ALSO NOT COUNTED, BUT NOTED THAT IF THEY WERE, SOVIET PACIFIC FLEET SHOULD ALSO BE COUNTED. HE ADDED THAT VERY FEW SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT IN EUROPEAN NAVIES ARE NOT EARMARKED TO NATO. IN RESPONSE TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FROM RUMSFELD, SACLANT REP REPLIED NO

AGGREGATE COST ESTIMATES OF PROPOSALS WERE AVAILABLE (COSTING IS IN HANDS OF MODS), SACLANC FULLY SUPPORTS STANDARDIZATION, AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM RECENT MIDDLE EAST WAR HAD NOT YET BEEN INCORPORATED INTO FORCE PROPOSALS. TECHNICAL DETAILS OF WEAPON SYSTEMS PERFORMANCES IN MIDDLE EAST WAR ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE TO SACLANC.

6. LUNS CONCLUDED BY POINTING OUT THAT NEXT STAGE OF PROCESS WAS MC REVIEW OF MNC FORCE PROPOSALS. HE DESCRIBED MC TASK AS BEING TO EXAMINE THREE SEPARATE MNC FORCE PROPOSALS FROM AN OVERALL MILITARY POINT OF VIEW WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION BEING GIVEN TO ELIMINATING ANY OVERLAP IN PROPOSALS. FOLLOWING MC CONSIDERATION, DRC WILL EXAMINE FORCE PROPOSALS FOR EACH COUNTRY FROM A NON-MILITARY POINT OF VIEW, AND WILL IN DUE COURSE RECOMMEND FORCE GOALS TO DPC. RUMSFELD

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